THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Fertilizer Association of India in a Memorandum dated 29th November, 1991 has stated that the fertilizer industry would rather welcome removal of all price and distribution control on fertilizers to allow for market forces to operate rather than tightening the norms of subsidy payment during the 6th pricing period.

Fertilizer Association of India anticipates that even though the transition will be difficult even as the newly commissioned units or projects under implementation struggle to survive, in the ultimate analysis, the industry will try to adjust to the situation of complete de-control. They have further added—"But, it must be pointed out that attracting future investment will be difficult as the production from new units with high capital costs will be at a much higher cost and consequently unviable in the face of the selling prices at which farmers may be willing to buy. Undoubtedly the choice in favour of de-control will be painful for everyone and there could be serious consequences at least in the short term, such a stagnation or decline in fertiliser consumption with adverse impact on feedgrains production."

Launching prosecution against produces or distributors of drugs

3109. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 686 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th September, 1991 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not launched any prosecution against any of the producer or distributor who violated the notified prices of bulk drugs and formulations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) how many cases of such violations are of ten years standing, how many are of five years standing and how many are of less than five years standing: and

(d) what steps Government would take to safeguard the interest of consumer and panalise the violators of provisions of price control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Some Companies are yet to submit complete data to the Government and in other cases the examination and processing is at different stages. The list of cases of overcharging has been given at S. No. (4) to (16) (other items) on page No. 3 of the Annexure to the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 650 answered on 5th September, 1991, which are mostly for the period ranging from 1987 to 1991, to the extent information is available.

Information of Imports of Finished Medicines

3110. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1650 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th September, 1991 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Form—6 calls for the information of imports of finished medicines;

(b) if so, the quantity and value of finished medicines imported by each multinational drug companies during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) what are the names of finished formulations imported by each company and what is the price of each;

(d) whether Government have sanctioned permission for manufacture of these formulations in the country;

(e) if so, names of the products and names of the companies whom permission has been sanctioned;

(f) whether it is a fact that most of the medicines are exempted from custom duty;

(g) if so, the names of the products;

(h) whether it is a fact that certain companies are importing certain drugs for which they are licensed to produce; and

(i) if so, the details of such instance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, sales turn over of medicines imported in finished form is called for in Form 6.

(d) Permissions are being given for the manufacture of formulations as per the provisions of Drug Policy, 1986 to all the drug companies including multinational companies.

(e) to (g) The information asked for is too voluminous and the time and effort involved in collecting these details is not commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

(h) and (i) Company-wise imports of drugs are not monitored.

Price of formulations based Phenobarbitone

3111. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 682 given in the Rajya Sabha on 5th September, 1991 and state:

(a) when the price of formulations based on Phenobarbitone was fixed after DPCO, 1987 and on what price of Phenobarbitone each fixation and revision was based;

(b) who are the major producers of formulations and what is the quantity imported by each and at what CIF price during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) what is the price of Phenobarbitone on which current ceiling prices of formulations are based;

(d) what was the CIF import price and quantity of imports of Phenobarbitone during the year 1991;

(e) what are the names of producers of Phenobarbitone Sodium and what was the production of each during the last three years, year-wise and what is the present price per kg; and

(f) when the prices of formulations of Phenobarbitone Sodium notified and what is the price of each?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d) As per available information M|s. Bayer and M|s. Rhome Poulenc are the major formulators of bulk drug Phenobarbitone. On 4-1-1988, Government has fixed the price of Phenobarbitone Tablets in different strengths as under:

(in Rs.)

Sl. No.	Item	Pack size	Ceiling Price
1	Phenobarbitone Tabs. 30 mg.	10's	1·10
2	Do.	25's	2·78
3	Do.	500's	27·50
4	Phenobarbitone Tabs. 60mg.	25's	3·70
5	Do.	500's	49·12
6	Phenobarbitone Tabs. 100mg.	500's	57·90